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Pueblo Incident Prompts Call-up Of 14,600 Men

President Johnson's Jan. 25 decision to call certain Reserve and National Guard units to active duty, because of the USS Pueblo incident, was taken as "a precautionary measure to strengthen our forces," according to Department of Defense officials.

The Pueblo was captured by North Koreans on Jan. 23 while in international waters. Diplomatic efforts to free the Pueblo and its crew from North Korea were continuing at presstime.

President Johnson issued an Executive Order for the call-up based on Congressional authority provided in the DOD Appropriations Act of 1967, which states:

"Until June 30, 1968, the President may, when he deems it necessary, order to active duty any unit of the Ready Reserve of an armed force for a period not to exceed 24 months."

Decision for the call-up followed a meeting by top Defense and State Department officials and advisors with the President. The call-up was recommended by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of Defense.

Ready Reserve units involved in the recall include eight Air Force Reserve, six Naval Reserve and 14 Air National Guard, totaling 14,600—14,000 Air Force and 600 Navy. All personnel were scheduled to report to their respective units by midnight Jan. 26. At that time these units had not been issued orders for deployment overseas.

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MINUTEMAN CEREMONY—President Lyndon B. Johnson presents the Treasury Department Minuteman Flag to Maj. Gen. Charles R. Bond Jr. (left), Twelfth Air Force Commander, in ceremonies at Bergstrom AFB, Texas. Also attending were Mr. Glen R. Johnson (center), National Director of the U.S. Savings Bond Program, and Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark, Vice Commander, Tactical Air Command. With 37,000 of 41,158 assigned military and civilian personnel enrolled in the bond program, the Twelfth is the first numbered Air Force to qualify for the Minuteman Flag with a participation rate of over 90 percent.

Chronology of Capture of USS Pueblo

The chain of events leading to the capture of Navy's intelligence collection auxiliary ship USS Pueblo and its 83-man crew started at about 10:00 p.m. (EST) Jan. 24, while the ship was sailing off the coast of North Korea in the Sea of Japan.

The 179-foot long Pueblo was approached by a North Korean patrol boat that requested the Pueblo's nationality. She identified herself as a U.S. ship. Aboard her were six officers, 75 enlisted men and two civilians identified by the Defense Department as Navy civilian hydrographers performing oceanographic research.

The North Korean craft then signalled Pueblo to "heave to or I will open fire on you."

When Pueblo replied "I am in international waters," the patrol craft began circling the American ship, and was joined by three other patrol boats an hour later.

Pueblo was ordered by one of the boats to "follow in my wake; I have a pilot aboard." The four boats closed in on Pueblo, taking positions on her bow, quarter and beam, and Pueblo crewmen sighted two MIG aircraft circling off the starboard bow.

A short time later, one of the patrol boats began backing towards the Pueblo's bow, and at 11:45 (EST) Pueblo reported she was being boarded. The American ship's position at that time was reported as

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President Johnson Discusses Progress In Nuclear Arms Control Efforts

President Johnson has told members of the Senate and House that "arms control is the most urgent business of our time," and explained that the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency speaks for itself in this critical area.

"I urge the Congress to extend its life (the Agency) for three years and to authorize the necessary appropriations," the President said in a letter to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

In his Jan. 24 letter, President Johnson pointed out that just over five years ago the world looked over the brink of nuclear holocaust. The Cuban missile crisis brought home to every man and woman the unspeakable personal horror of nuclear war. It posed the problem, not in terms of megatons and megadeaths, but in terms of a man's home destroyed and his family wiped off the face of the earth.

One year later, the world took the first great step toward nuclear sanity—the Limited Test Ban Treaty.

The President's letter pointed out, "From that treaty was born a common spirit and a common trust. National agendas were revised. Priorities were rearranged. Nations around the world joined in the quest for freedom from nuclear terror.

"The United Nations passed a resolution against bombs in orbit. The United States and the Soviet Union installed a "hot line" between Washington and Moscow which has already been used to protect the peace. Last year a new treaty went into effect to preserve outer space for the works of peace."

President Johnson said, "The Arms Control and Disarmament Agency played a central role in all these important advances." He said the next great step forward is "a treaty banning the spread of nuclear weapons."

The United States and the Soviet Union have agreed to a complete draft Non-Proliferation Treaty, the letter stated, and submitted it to the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee in Geneva for consideration by other nations.

The President said, "This draft already reflects many of the interests and views of the nations which do not now have nuclear weapons. We believe such a treaty represents the most constructive way to avoid the terrible dangers and the criminal waste which all men recognize would flow from the further spread of nuclear weapons."

The letter stated for at least 25 years this treaty would:

- Prohibit any nuclear weapon state from transferring to any recipient, either directly or indirectly, any nuclear explosive device or the control of any such device;
- Prohibit any nuclear weapon state from helping non-nuclear weapon nations to develop their own nuclear weapons;
- Prohibit any non-nuclear weapon state from receiving nuclear weapons and from manufacturing its own weapons;
- Provide for verification that no nuclear materials are diverted by non-nuclear weapon states to produce explosive devices;
- Encourage cooperation between nuclear and non-nuclear nations to insure that all will benefit from the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

"This treaty will not end tensions between nations nor will it eliminate the shadow of nuclear war which now menaces all mankind," the President said, "But it will reduce the chances of nuclear disaster arising from local disputes.

"It will avoid the tragic waste of resources on nuclear weapons technology by countries whose first and overriding concern must be economic growth and social progress.

"And it will, we hope, bring worldwide acceptance of nuclear safeguards inspection as the basic protection which every nation must afford itself and its neighbors."

Exercise Bold Shot 3-68 Completed at Eglin AFB

More than 1,500 Army and Air Force personnel participated in "Bold Shot 3-68," a joint training exercise conducted by the United States Strike Command at Eglin AFB, Jan. 22-26.

The four-day exercise was designed to test the rapid reaction capability and operational readiness of select USSTRICOM air/ground forces in meeting U.S. commitments when a small nation requests aid in combating elements of an insurgent force from a neighboring country.

Participating forces included elements of USSTRICOM headquarters, the 82nd Airborne Division, Tactical Air Command, the Alabama Air National Guard, and the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center, Ft. Bragg, N. C.

Maj. Gen. Pierce Named DASA Test Commander

Maj. Gen. Donald R. Pierce will become Commander of Test Command, Defense Atomic Support Agency, and Joint Task Force Eight next month.

Test Command, DASA, is responsible for DOD weapons effects testing within the continental U.S., while JTF-8 is responsible for maintaining U.S. readiness to perform testing now prohibited by the Limited Nuclear Test Ban treaty.

Gen. Pierce, currently Commanding General, Army Training Center, Fort Lewis, Wash., will succeed Maj. Gen. Arthur W. Oberbeck who has been assigned as Commanding General, Army Engineer Center, and Commandant, Army Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, Va.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Background for Commanders

Our Continuing Commitment in the Home Hemisphere*

In size and grandeur of concept, the task the United States and the other members of the Organization of American States have set for themselves under the Alliance for Progress has rarely, if ever, been equaled in history. But magnitude and nobility do not, by themselves, necessarily justify the expenditure of resources that may be required to finish the task.

We in the United States must continually ask ourselves: What are we trying to do in the home hemisphere? Have our past efforts paid off? Is further effort justified when there are other urgent demands?

Objectives of the Alliance

Just what is our commitment in Latin America?

In the words of the Alliance Charter signed in 1961, we and our Latin American neighbors have pledged:

". . . to enlist the full energies of the peoples and governments of the American republics in a great cooperative effort to accelerate the economic and social development of the participating countries of Latin America, so that they may achieve maximum levels of well-being, with equal opportunities for all, in democratic societies adapted to their own needs and desires."

U.S. Role Is One of Support

We assured the Latin American leaders that we would:

- Support with increased resources their own increased efforts in education and agriculture;
- Help them build the multinational infra-structure projects that would knit the vast region together;
- Back up their concerted efforts to realize their dream of a Latin American Common Market;
- Harness our science and technology to the whole range of their development programs.

While the theme of the Allies is hemispheric cooperation, the final product of our efforts will be uniquely Latin and "other" American. The societies which they are building must function according to the needs and aspirations of their peoples.

Growing Political Stability

Since early 1966, 12 countries of the hemisphere have held successful elections, three of which replaced nonconstitutional regimes with constitutional governments. There has been no unconstitutional change of government in Latin America for the past 18 months. Guyana and Barbados have joined the hemispheric family of democratic nations and Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados became the first new members of our inter-American system since the Charter of the OAS was signed in 1948. In 1967 the present democratically elected government of Guatemala celebrated its first anniversary in office despite serious threats from both the right and the left. Paraguay recently adopted a new constitution which was drafted with the participation of all major opposition groups. And the administration of President Balaguer has given the Dominican Republic the longest period of constitutional government in 40 years.

Latin American Military Expenditures

Some of the reasons for our present military assistance policy in Latin America [are]:

- The defense of any free and independent nation ultimately rests with those chosen by the country to insure its continued existence. This . . . cannot be delegated . . . to nationals of another country.
- The greatest threat to continued political stability in the hemisphere at this time is posed by internal disorder and subversion.

Defense needs will vary from country to country and from time to time, but any country with a defense establishment will have to keep its military equipment operational through expenditures for maintenance and replacement. We support efforts by developing countries to keep these expenditures at a minimum consistent with the relative demands of development and defense.

Within these limits, I believe that our military assistance program has been a success. Today, Latin America spends less on defense than any other area of the world except Africa south of the Sahara. During a period of increased attempts by Cuba and Cuba-supported elements to subvert a number of countries in the region, defense expenditures have actually decreased.

The defense establishment also provides training to many who might otherwise never have learned to read and write or acquired a skill useful to them in civilian life.

Development, as the President has pointed out, is not yet a fully mastered body of knowledge. Perhaps it is a field in which we will never be able to do everything by doctrine.

In the home hemisphere we are working and learning together. We have come a long way—especially considering certain historical and psychological aspects of hemisphere relations—we have come an amazingly long way in dealing with each other as if the traditional privacy of national internal affairs did not exist.

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* *Excerpts from a recent address by Covey T. Oliver, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs.*

Pueblo Capture

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about 25 miles from the mainland of North Korea.

Twenty-five minutes later, Pueblo radioed that she had been requested to follow the North Korean boats into the port of Wonsan. In the same message, the commanding officer, Cdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, reported that Pueblo had not used any weapons during the entire incident, although the ship was armed with three .50 cal. machine guns.

Defense Department officials said, however at some time during the incident Cdr. Bucher reported four of his men were injured, one of them critically. The officials said they did not know the cause of the injuries.

At 12:32 (EST) Pueblo sent its last message, reporting that it had come to "all stop" and that it was "going off the air."

Defense officials said the Pueblo's commanding officer requested no instructions before permitting the North Koreans to board the ship. They said it was only when the North Koreans boarded that the captain asked for help.

"Time and distance factors made it impossible to respond to the call that was made when the ship was being boarded," the officials said.

AF Successfully Tests Hybrid Rocket Engine

The nation's first hybrid rocket engine designed for operational use has been successfully tested by the Air Force at the Air Proving Ground Center, Eglin AFB, Fla.

The hybrid was air-launched in a supersonic Sandpiper target missile.

Sandpiper is a modified AGM-37A supersonic target missile. It was released at 49,000 feet from an F-4C Phantom II jet fighter.

Air Force chose the hybrid—a marriage of solid and liquid technology—after a review of target missile requirements.

DOUBLE CHECK—Lt. J. A. Daniel Smith, USN, and Boatswain's Mate First Class Edward D. Rose, check coordinates on a map during an operation in South Vietnam's Mekong Delta. As U.S. Naval advisors to River Assault Group 23, they also maintain close contact with American advisors to other RVN forces in the Co Chien River area.

Defense Centralizes Public Affairs Offices In 3 Major U.S. Cities

Military public information offices in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, which are operated as extensions of the four military service headquarters in Washington, and as new DOD Public Affairs Offices, will be colocated within a single facility in each city.

The DOD Public Affairs Officers are Colonel Alfred Mock, U.S. Army, New York; Captain Richard McCool, U.S. Navy, Chicago; and Colonel George Schenkein, U.S. Air Force, Los Angeles.

A number of the existing offices have already been colocated and the project will be completed as funds and appropriate office space becomes available. The information officers of the four services will continue to function as before in handling specific single service public affairs responsibilities.

Air Guard, Reserve Units Activated

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The units have a total of 372 aircraft—fighter, attack, reconnaissance, transport and rescue. Three hundred of the aircraft are Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve.

Three of the Navy squadrons called up are equipped with A4B Skyhawk attack aircraft, 12 to a squadron. The other Navy squadrons, with a total of 36 aircraft, have F-8 Crusader fighter aircraft.

As for the Air Force, 10 Air National Guard units with a total of 200 aircraft are equipped with F-100 Supersabres. Fifty-four RF-101 Voodoo reconnaissance aircraft are assigned to the four remaining ANG units.

The Air Force Reserve units involved in the call-up are equipped with C-124 Globemaster troop carriers and HC-97 Stratofreighters.

Although no call-up of other service units was announced, the White House said, "When and if decisions are made on the call-up of Army and Marine Corps Reservists, appropriate announcement will be made promptly." There were no other announcements on immediate actions regarding active duty personnel.

Over the past six years, two other situations prompted the call-up of Reserve units—the Berlin problem and the Cuban Crisis.

On July 25, 1961, President Kennedy announced this country's plan to augment military forces in face of the Berlin situation. At that time, 148,000 Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines were involved in the mobilization.

During the Cuban Crisis in 1962, the President recalled 14,000 Air Force Reservists.

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